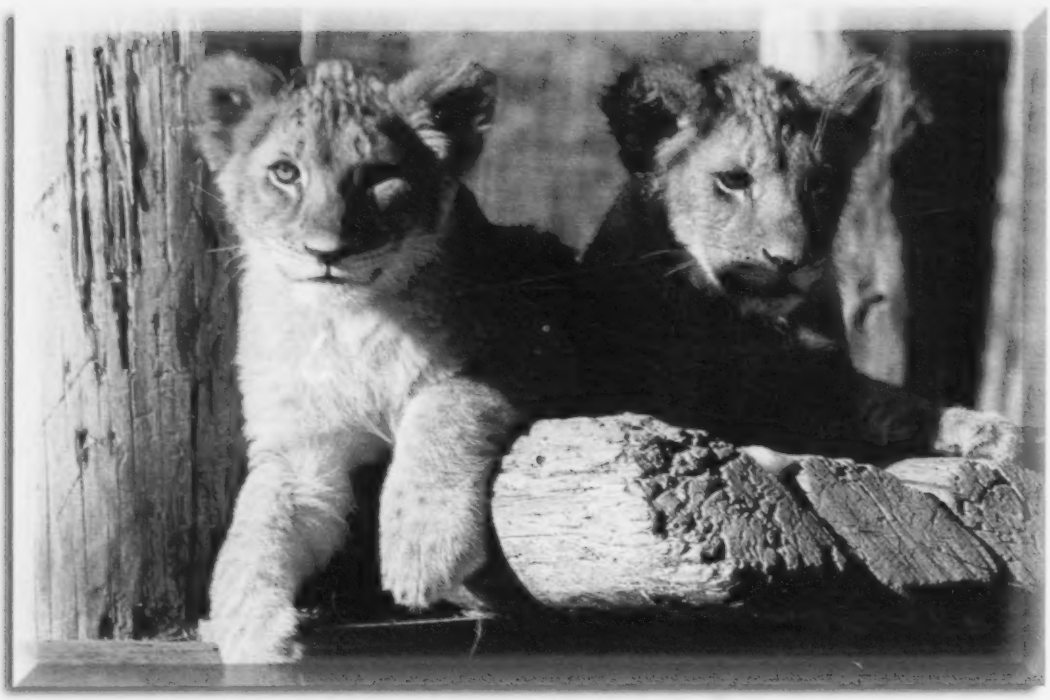
2011 ANNUAL REPORT

SASKATOON FORESTRY FARM PARK & ZOO



A Natural Place To Be

Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo
2011 Annual Report

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All photos taken at the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo courtesy of Ernie Husulak

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide diversified recreational and educational programs to the citizens of Saskatoon and Saskatchewan by means of a zoological, horticultural, and heritage park that focuses on Western Canadian animals, Saskatoon and Saskatchewan's horticultural heritage, and the history of the Sutherland Forest Nursery Station National Historic Site.

FACILITY & PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

1. To provide educational, recreational, and conservational horticultural programming focusing on living plant displays and artefacts in cooperation with other organizations such as the Saskatchewan Perennial Society, Saskatoon Heritage Society, and Friends of the Forestry Farm House.
2. To provide educational, recreational, and conservational zoological programming focusing on live animal displays and artefacts in cooperation with the Saskatoon Zoo Society.
3. To provide educational, recreational, and conservational heritage programming focusing on preserving and interpreting the historical landscape and structures of the Sutherland Forest Nursery Station in cooperation with the Saskatchewan Perennial Society, Heritage Society, and Friends of the Forestry Farm House.
4. To give visitors the opportunity to learn about the interdependency of plants and animals, and the effects humans have on them, by ensuring that displays of horticultural and zoological species demonstrate the interdependency of species.
5. To serve present and future generations of Saskatchewan citizens by interpreting and preserving their heritage.
6. To preserve the heritage of the Sutherland Forest Nursery Station by continuing to provide horticultural research on hardy plant species.
7. To enable individuals, families, and organizations to passively enjoy the natural environment and to enjoy active recreational and cultural pursuits in a natural setting.
8. To enhance visitors' enjoyment and comfort by providing appropriate support services and amenities.
9. To increase awareness among potential visitors and encourage them to both visit and more fully experience the site.

MANAGER'S REPORT

OVERVIEW

The Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo (SFFP&Z) is a 58.27 hectare site owned and operated by the City of Saskatoon, which provides an annual budget to cover operating costs and infrastructure maintenance. The SFFP&Z contains a variety of native Saskatchewan mammals, birds, trees and shrubs as well as non-native ornamentals and fruit trees. It also provides a setting for recreational activities such as picnics, fishing, walking, and other unstructured recreational activities. Rental facilities include a hall, booth with ball diamond, gazebo (semi-private picnic site), wedding garden, outdoor stage and the Forestry Farm House.

WEATHER, WEATHER, WEATHER. Every outdoor attraction's ability to attract guests is based on weather. When attendance is low, it is due to poor weather conditions. When attendance improves, it is based on good weather conditions and a great product. The weather we experienced in the Saskatoon area during the 2011 summer season was the best Zoo weather in many years. We were fortunate to experience this great weather during our most popular times, weekends from Easter through Thanksgiving.

The African lions displayed in PotAshCorp Ark Exhibit gave birth on September 24 to two cubs which helped in attracting people to the facility in October. With improved programs and an improved public perception of the site throughout the province, we should maintain the attendance levels which we have seen for the last four years. From April 1 through October 31, we attracted 120,475 visitors to the Zoo. This is the fourth year in a row that we have exceeded 100,000 people visiting the zoo during the summer season. The "McDonald's Natural Place to Play" accessible playground in the Park continues to attracting more people to the Park, especially during the evening hours.

The partnership with Tourism Saskatoon and Potash Corp of Saskatchewan, which enabled the Forestry Farm to promote the Zoo with a billboard campaign throughout the province in 2011, was an important factor in attracting out of town visitors to our facility and had a positive impact on our attendance.

As a result of the record precipitation levels during 2010, the SFFP&Z expected to see major water damage to both its trees and lawn areas as they endured weeks on end of being under water. To date, we have lost four major trees in the park as a direct result of the rainfall in 2010.

2011 HIGHLIGHTS

Our facility is extremely proud of the following accomplishments:

- The writing and research for phase 2 of the "Changing Prairie Landscapes" interpretive exhibit, based on the almost 100-year history of the SFFP&Z site, was completed and installation of this phase is scheduled for May 2012, in the Knights of Columbus Discovery Centre, a part of the Affinity Learning Centre. This project took almost nine months of research.

- The kiosk at the entrance to the Park was moved with the goal of improving both the aesthetics of the entrance and improving driver visibility and pedestrian safety.

- Our lions became proud parents on September 24.

- A zookeeper attended the Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums (CAZA) Annual Conference in Golden, BC, September 28 through October 1, 2011. Conferences are a great learning experience and an opportunity for our keeper staff to share their experiences and learn different methods of animal care from their peers in the profession.

- We incorporated a food drive to benefit the Saskatoon Food Bank in conjunction with the Kinsmen Day activities held on June 24, 2011, our annual free access day to the facility.

- All map signs throughout the facility were upgraded in 2011.

- Re-new the banners on Attridge Drive and developed banners for Forestry Farm Park Drive which promotes the 100th anniversary of the site in 2013.

- Planning for the construction of a new parking lot for the facility was completed.

2012 OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The SFFP&Z remains committed to providing cost-effective family entertainment and educational opportunities through a variety of initiatives, including the following:

Opportunities:

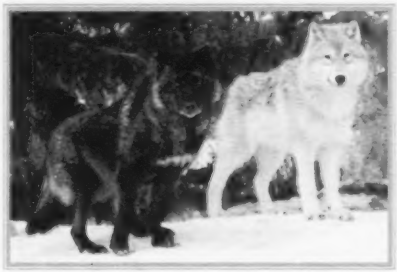
- Continued habitat improvements and guest enhancements throughout the Zoo. In 2012, we plan to upgrade a climbing hill in a sheep exhibit and landscape two additional mammal exhibits.

- Educational interpretation provided by the Saskatoon Zoo Society, Saskatchewan Perennial Society, and Friends of the Forestry Farm House will continue to be a priority. The Saskatoon Zoo Society is striving to find ways of improving weekend educational initiatives on site while the other organizations are expanding existing initiatives.

- Continued implementation of some of the recommendations from the Facility Interpretive Plan under the direction of the City Heritage Coordinator with direct input from the Community Services Marketing Section, Facility staff, Friends of the Forestry Farm House, Saskatchewan Perennial Society, Saskatoon Zoo Society, and the Heritage Society. This is a long term project that proceeds as funds are available.

- Start construction of a new facility parking lot.

- Planning for a new Zoo entrance and Gift Shop for construction in 2013.
- Finish construction on Phase 2 of the Potash Corp Ark Exhibit that will add 7500 square feet of exhibit space to display an additional species.
- Construct the Event Pavilion in the Zoo sponsored by the Lions Clubs of Saskatoon. This open air pavilion will measure 80 feet wide and 120 feet long and will provide a sheltered space for special events, regular zoo guests and rental revenue.
- Continue planning for the construction of the North American Carnivore Exhibit that will include, a new home for our wolves, cougars and potentially arctic fox and wolverines. A fundraising campaign by the Saskatoon Zoo Foundation will finance this project and is scheduled to start in the spring of 2012.



- Name the lion contest. This will engage the population of Saskatoon in naming our two lion cubs born in September 2011.

Challenges:

- A key challenge that we are faced with is addressing aging and needed additional facility infrastructure. Examples are: upgrading existing road network, adding and maintaining pedestrian pathways, developing a secondary exit to the site, new water and waste water distribution network to our animal displays and maintaining our lawns and trees. The SFFP&Z Master Plan has identified many of these projects and the Administration plans to address many of these issues with funding through the Forestry Farm Capital Reserve and emergency replacement through existing facility maintenance programs.
- The next few years will see a change in staff as an ageing workforce starts to retire. The challenge will be to attract and retain experienced staff to our site as this is an industry issue.
- Fundraising to build new, innovative animal exhibits, increase space for many of our current exhibits and diversify our educational programs are issues that public demand places on the facility. The Saskatoon Zoo Foundation continues to develop partnerships with businesses, individuals and all levels of government to help fund capital projects at the SFFP&Z to address some of these issues. (see Community *Support, page 21*).

CAZA MEMBERSHIP

The Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo has been a member of Canadian Association of Zoos and Aquariums (CAZA) since 1991 and manages its animal collection according to an established code of ethics and recognized industry husbandry standards. The 2011 membership fee was $2,350.

Through CAZA, the SFFP&Z has fostered relationships with other CAZA Institutional members, including zoos in Toronto, Calgary, and Winnipeg. This has given the SFFP&Z access to educational materials, operational information, animals and shared ideas it could not otherwise afford. These inter-zoo relationships will continue to be a valuable asset as the Zoo portion of the facility expands and improves its exhibits.

CAZA Conference 2011

The 2011 CAZA Conference was held September 28 through October 1 in Golden, B.C. The SFFP&Z Manager and a Zookeeper attended this conference. Over 80 percent of our permanent zookeepers have now attended a CAZA National Conference.

The conference in Golden was a great learning experience as well as an opportunity for our staff to expand their network of professional contacts throughout Canada. The theme of this conference was "Creating Connections to Nature".

Quote from our zookeeper; "The opportunity to meet professional peers, to discuss common issues and hear the professional presentations at a National Conference is an invaluable experience. The sessions on social media and its implications were very educational. The highlight of the Conference was visiting the Grizzly Bear Habitat and viewing the animal in a natural environment. Bringing this information back to the other keepers and discussing current industry trends is a very important for the growth of our facility."

CAZA Conservation Initiative

The SFFP&Z has participated in CAZA sponsored national promotions the last four years. A direct benefit that we derived from participating in a national promotion was an elevation in the public perception of our site and an increased awareness of the Forestry Farm throughout Saskatchewan.

CAZA initiative in 2011 was a partnership with the Cascades Paper Company. Funds received from this partnership were distributed by CAZA as conservation grants and funded five conservation projects across Canada.

CAZA Award

The Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo is proud to announce that Lesley Avant, a staff member and volunteer for the Saskatoon Zoo Society received an Award of Merit from CAZA for her many years of volunteering at the SFFP&Z.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Many of our staff members were recertified in Standard First Aid and CPR in 2011. We also had shooting practice for our zookeepers at the Wildlife Federation shooting range. Training for the safe handling and firing of firearms is a prerequisite for an urban zoo as we are virtually surrounded by homes. In the event of an animal injury or escape, all our staff must be familiar with the safe operation of firearms to ensure both staff and public safety.

GREEN INITIATIVES

The Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo participates in a number of initiatives to reduce our impact on our environment. We are constantly looking for environmentally friendly ways of achieving this goal. We are proud of:

:

- Composting over 12,000 kilograms of animal waste every year.
- Installed 8 solar panels on our animal shelters to provide our electrical needs.
- Installed re-cycled rubber parking dividers in our parking lot.
- Increased our re-cycling of paper, plastic, cardboard and tin to over 80 cubic meters per year.
- Utilized in-floor heating in the Affinity Learning Centre which could lead to converting our current gas boilers to geothermal heating in the future.
- Installed high efficiency hand dryers in our main washroom block. This initiative reduced our paper towel consumption by 35%, improved the overall cleanliness of the washroom block, reduced our garbage production and reduced staff time required to stock, clean and dispose of the used paper towels.
- Use re-cycled steel panels in some of our construction of new animal exhibits.
- Re-cycle chain link fence material whenever practicable.
- Changed all our cleaning products to environmentally safe products.

OPERATING BUDGET

OVERVIEW

The SFFP&Z's operating expenditures for 2011 were $2,083,100. Significant expenditures for the year included salary and payroll costs of $1,009,800; Infrastructure Services maintenance charges of $353,000, and utility charges of $209,900 – for a total of $1,572,700.

FOUR-YEAR OPERATING BUDGET COMPARISON

	2011	2010	2009	2008
Operating Budget	$2,196,315	$2,127,700	$2,071,000	$1,925,600
Major Expenditures(Actual)				
Salary & Payroll	$1,009,800	$937,000	$910,200	$815,200
Infrastructure Services Maintenance	$353,000	$336,500	$302,400	$292,400
Utility Costs	$209,900	$194,200	$237,000	$213,200
SUBTOTAL	$1,572,700	$1,467,700	$1,449,600	$1,320,800

BUDGET TRENDS

Admissions: Our 2011 admissions success can be attributed to the weather that we experienced throughout the summer as well as the joint marketing initiatives that promoted our site throughout the Province. A special Thanks to our partners, Tourism Saskatoon and Potash Corp of Saskatchewan for helping to fund this provincial billboard advertising campaign.

Staffing: 2011 was a challenge to keep a full compliment of staff. Our Zookeeper staff was consistent as we filled one available part-time position this year. It was difficult to attract and keep custodial staff as the facility is open close to 24 hours per day, seven days a week during the summer season. Late night shifts are hard to fill.

As our workforce continues to age we will be faced with developing protocols for working with animals that are less physically demanding. Innovations in animal behavioural training, development of improved animal handling equipment and improved exhibit design will all contribute to reduce the physical demands of the profession.

Utilities: The SFFP&Z continues to explore ways to lower its utilities consumption. The Enchanted Forest has been changing many of their light displays to LED lights and has already seen a 30 percent reduction in electrical costs over the last two years.

REVENUES

The SFFP&Z generated $716,900 in total revenue in 2011. Zoo admissions accounted for approximately 73.2 percent of this figure, with the remaining revenue coming from front gate admissions to the Forestry Farm Park and facility rentals.

FOUR-YEAR REVENUE COMPARISON

2011	2010	2009	2008
$716,900	$623,800	$638,200	$680,200

ADMISSIONS

2011 Zoo attendance, April 1 to October 31, was 120,475 guests (including 29,474 pre-school children). Admission rates increased from $8.50 to $9.00 adults; from $5.00 to $5.50 youth; from $17.00 to $18.00 family; free for preschool children (5 years and under).

FOUR-YEAR ZOO ADMISSIONS REVENUE COMPARISON

2011	2010	2009	2008
$524,438	$454,083	$469,060	$506,260

- 2011 admissions recovered 23.18 percent of gross operating costs, a slight improvement from 21.8 percent in 2010.

FOUR-YEAR COMPARISON OF OTHER SOURCES OF SFFP&Z REVENUE

	2011	2010	2009	2008
Front Gate	$89,021	$77,700	$82,703	$86,903
Train	Included in zoo admission	Included in zoo admission	Included in zoo admission	included in zoo admission
Fishing Permits	$4,817	$4,625	$4,193	$3,787
Rentals	$73,077	$60,430	$56,837	$57,928
Stroller Rentals	$10,839	$9,900	$9,481	$10,522
Feed Machines	$9,794	$9,570	$11,150	$10,055
Concession	$4,900	$4,900	$4,725	$4,725
TOTAL	$192,448	$167,125	$169,089	$173,920

COST COMPARISON

The following table provides a four-year comparison of Zoo attendance figures, admission revenues, and costs.

FOUR-YEAR COST COMPARISON

	2011	2010	2009	2008
Zoo Attendance *(not including special events, Zoo Society programs or Enchanted Forest) April 1 to October 31 only*	120,475	111,831	122,030	132,730
(includes pre-school children entering free)	*29,474*	*26,582*	*27,329*	*23,865*
Admission Revenue *Collected April 1-October 31*	$524,400	$454,100	$469,100	$506,200
Gross Operating Budget *City Contribution*	$2,266,800	$2,083,100	$2,037,500	$1,925,200
Revenues (all)	$716,900	$623,800	$638,200	$680,200
Net Cost to Operate	$1,549,900	$1,459,300	1,399,300	$1,245,000
Admissions as % of Gross Budget	23.1%	21.8%	23.1%	26.3%
Hours of Operation	2946	2946	2946	2946
Net Cost per Operating Hour *Net costs ÷ hours of operation*	$526.10	$495.34	$474.96	$422.60
Net Cost per Visit (does not include winter attendance) *Net operating costt ÷ attendance*	$12.86	$13.04	$11.46	$9.37
Population (city)	234,200	224,300	218,900	209,400
Attendance as % of City Pop	51.5%	49.8%	55.8%	63.4%
Number of Dwellings	98,531	95,845	95,516	94,189
Net cost per Dwelling	$15.73	$15.22	$14.64	$13.22
Net cost per Resident	$6.62	$6.50	$6.39	$5.95

SASKATOON FORESTRY FARM PARK AND ZOO FACILITY USE

In 2005, we started to keep track of winter attendance at this facility by using a voluntary sign in sheet. Although not 100 percent accurate, we are able to conservatively estimate our winter attendance by multiplying the number of people who signed in by three. This represented 14,154 Zoo visits during the winter season as 4,718 people indicated their winter visit. Combining all attendance figures for the various events held at the facility during 2011 gives us an estimated total facility usage of 242,486 people, or more than the estimated population of the City of Saskatoon.

2011 Facility Usage	Attendance
Zoo Attendance April 1 – October 31	120,475
Zoo Winter Attendance January 1 to March 31 and November 1 to December 31	14,154 est.
Enchanted Forest	69,500
Zoogala	350
Zoo Society Programs January 1 to April 14 and November 1 to December 31	1500
Perennial Society Programs	250 est.
Front Gate - May 1 to September 5 (park and rental guests)	31,257
Rentals and Park Guests September 1 to December 31	5000 est.
TOTAL FACILITY USAGE	**242,486 est.**

We also tracked our attendance after 7 p.m. throughout the season. The following chart shows that 3,152 people or 2.6 percent of our total Zoo attendance came in after 7 p.m. This time period represents 8.6 percent of our hours of operation. We experienced only 16 days with rain compared to last year when we had 56 days with rain.

2011 Facility Usage After 7 p.m.							
Attendance After 7 p.m.	**Cars**	**Attendance**			**Rain Days**		
		Week Day	**Week End**	**Total**	**Week Day**	**Week End**	**Total**
May	270	190	207	**397**	3	1	**4**
June	357	540	143	**683**	3	3	**6**
July	572	668	436	**1104**	2	0	**2**
August	345	693	233	**926**	2	1	**3**
Sept.(5 days)	34	21	21	**42**	1	0	**1**
TOTALS	**1578**	2112	1040	**3152**	11	5	**16**

SASKATOON FORESTRY FARM PARK AND ZOO RESERVES

The Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo has five reserves approved by City Council to address specific issues: the Animal Trading Reserve, Forestry Farm Development Reserve, Auditorium Reserve, Forestry Farm Capital Reserve, and Superintendents Residence Reserve.

Animal Trading Reserve

The principle behind the Animal Trading Reserve is to self-insure the Zoo's largest animal population (hoofed stock), to use the reserve for animal acquisitions, and to accept funds from the sale of surplus animals. With the recent concerns over West Nile Virus, Chronic Wasting Disease and Hoof & Mouth Disease, the value of the Zoo's indigenous hoof stock has decreased dramatically. In 1992, the present compliment of hoofed stock was valued at $135,000 for self-insurance purposes; today the same animals would be valued at $25,000 for replacement purposes.

ANIMAL TRADING RESERVE

2011	2010	2009	2008
$60,538	$53,593	$50,457	$51,183

Auditorium Reserve

Funds generated by the $20 per hour levy on auditorium rentals go into the Auditorium Reserve, where they are used to make program improvements to the auditorium.

- Auditorium rentals generated $6,980 for the reserve in 2011.
- This reserve financed the purchase of tables at a cost of $1700 in 2011

AUDITORIUM RESERVE (BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31)

2011	2010	2009	2008
$26,159	$20,889	$15,150	$13,417

Forestry Farm Development Reserve

Sixty per cent of front gate revenues, after expenses, are directed to the Forestry Farm Development Reserve and used for improvements to the Zoo and Park. These revenues are derived primarily from the $2 parking fee collected from May 1 through the September long weekend at the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo park gate. The sale of Zoo Poo and winter donations at the Zoo admissions gate also account for modest contributions.

In 2011, the Forestry Farm Development Reserve allocated $53,800 for various projects including the purchase of butterflies, signs, phase 2 of the interpretive display in the Knights of Columbus Discovery Centre, tree removal and landscaping in the park.

FORESTRY FARM PARK DEVELOPMENT RESERVE

	2011	2010	2009	2008
Gross Revenues $2 parking fee & other	$89,021	$73,816	$79,758	$86,902,
Net to Reserve includes 60% of parking revenue, donations and Zoo Poo sales	$40,750	$36,484	$40,254	$47,179
Project Expenditures	$53,454	$29,123	$10,192	$14,860
Balance of Reserve - December 31	$89,458	$102,162	$95,336	$65,233

Forestry Farm Capital Reserve

City Council approved the creation of the Forestry Farm Capital Reserve on January 9, 2006. This reserve is funded through an annual provision in the facility operating budget with the aim of funding future capital projects at the site as identified in the Master Plan.

In 2011 The Forestry Farm Capital Reserve budgeted:

- $240,000 to build a new parking lot and access roads. This work was postponed to 2012.

As of December 31, 2011, the Forestry Farm Capital Reserve has a balance of $120,000.

The table below identifies the current status of the Forestry Farm Capital Reserve along with the proposed Capital Projects which will be funded from this reserve as well as the proposed time frame to implement the projects.

Year	Sources	Application	Total	Notes
2011 Estimates: Estimated Provision P2048	(150,000)	240,000	(120,000)	New Parking Lot
2012 Estimates: Estimated Provision	(150,000)	45,000	(225,000)	Quarantine Upgrade
2013 Estimates: Estimated Provision P2048	(150,000)	350,000	(25,000)	New Zoo Entrance and Gift Shop
2014 Estimates: Estimated Provision P2048 P2048	(150,000)	40,000 60,000	75,000	Asphalt Maintenance in Zoo Walking Path in Park
2015 Estimates: Estimated Provision P2048	(150,000)	200,000	(25,000)	Recap Asphalt Main Entry Road
2016 Estimates: Estimated Provision P2048 P2048	(150,000)	50,000 110,000	(15,000)	Phase 3 of Interpretive Display Service Road

NOTE: Projects planned for 2012 and 2013 may change priority if funding is available as we plan for the centennial of the site in 2013.

Superintendents Residence Reserve

This Reserve was approved by Council on March 21, 2005, and was created to distribute, over several years, the cost of expanding, improving, leasing, or developing heritage-based program opportunities that directly service the public. Source of funds for this reserve is derived from 30 percent of all funds generated by special event or retreat, rentals of the first floor of the Superintendents Residence. The 2011 contribution to this Reserve totalled $1,785, and we have a balance $5,093 as of December 31, 2011. We purchased a banner and painted the exterior front porch for a total expenditure of $1,812 from this reserve.

Animal Care

ANIMAL COLLECTION

The SFFP&Z is home to 73 species of mammals, birds, reptiles, and fish. The animal collection includes several exotic species, such as the popular Capuchin monkeys, but is largely comprised of indigenous Canadian species, including black tailed prairie dogs, badgers, elk, antelope, lynx, swift fox, and wolf.

Two-Year Comparison of Animal Collection

Number of:	Mammals		Birds		Reptiles/ Amphibians		Fish	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
Species	31	32	26	26	12	12	2	3
Specimens	141	119	90	94	22	34	9	6
Orphans Received	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Births	37	19	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deaths	15	8	12	7	12	1	3	1

NOTABLE BIRTHS

In 2011, the majority of our mammals reproduced with the highlight being the birth two lion cubs on September 24th.

VETERINARY SERVICES

In 2011, the SFFP&Z contract for veterinary services with the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) was $21,200, which includes salary, drugs, hospital, and laboratory charges. The alliance gives the SFFP&Z access to the expertise and resources of a modern veterinary hospital and specialists, without the capital costs. The WCVM benefits by being able to offer staff and students first-hand experience with a variety of wild animals.

FOUR-YEAR VETERINARY SERVICES COMPARISON

	2011	2010	2009	2008
Cost of Services	$21,200	$21,200	$21,200	$21,200

ANIMAL INVENTORY

CLASS - AVES

Common Name	Number	Common Name	Number
Bald Eagle	2	Long Eared Owl	3
Bare-Eyed Cockatoo	2	Mallard Duck	2
Canada Goose	2	Red Tailed Hawk	2
Domestic Chickens	some	Mute Swans	2
Ferruginous Hawk	3	Blue Fronted Amazon	1
Great Horned Owl	4	Short Eared Owl	6
Green Finch	1	Snow Goose	3
Barn Owl	2	Snowy Owl	2
Indian Blue Peafowl	35	Zebra Finch	2
Kestrel	3	Swainsons Hawk	1
Java Finch	2	Tundra Swan	1
Orange Weaver Finch	1	Burrowing Owl	1
Ring-necked Doves	4		

CLASS - AMPHIBIA

Common Name	Number	Common Name	Number
Tiger Salamander	5	Fire-bellied Toad	5
Leopard Frog	1		
Green and black Poison Arrow Frog	4		

CLASS – ARTHROPODS

Common Name	Number
Whiteknee Tarantula	1

Class - Mammalia

Common Name	Number	Common Name	Number
Badger	2	Mouflon Sheep	12
Bighorn Sheep	11	Plains Bison	6
Black Tailed Prairie Dogs	some	Pronghorn	6
Capuchin Monkey	2	Pygmy Goats	8
Cougar	2	Red Fox	4
Dall's Sheep	2	Rocky Mountain Goats	2
Domestic Rabbit	some	Sika Deer	11
Fallow Deer	13	Stone Sheep	2
Lynx	2	Swift Fox	2
Miniature Horse	4	Timber Wolf	2
Pere David Deer	3	Wapiti	7
Suri Alpaca	4	Woodland Caribou	3
African Lion	4	Yak	3
Black footed Ferret	1	Domestic Ferret	2
North American Porcupine	1	Grizzly Bear	2

Class – Osteichthyes (Fish)

Common Name	Number
Rainbow Trout	3
Atlantic Salmon	4
Sturgeon	2

Class – Reptilia

Common Name	Number
Eastern Corn Snake	1
Tokay Gecko	1
Red Eared Slider Turtle	1
Green Anole	2
Schneider's Skink	1
Bearded Dragon	2
Common Garter Snake	1
Royal Ball Python	1

Community Support

The Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo is fortunate to have the support of four volunteer organizations interested in improving both Park and Zoo facilities and services.

SASKATOON ZOO FOUNDATION

The Saskatoon Zoo Foundation is a non-profit organization operated by a volunteer Board of Directors. Its mission is to raise capital funds for new animal exhibits and improvements at the SFFP&Z. The Saskatoon Zoo Foundation bases its fundraising goals on needs identified by the Administration and requests for capital support from the Saskatoon Zoo Society (SZS) Board. The Manager of the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo is the spokesperson for the facility.

Between 2002 and 2011, through the generosity of the community, business and government, the Saskatoon Zoo Foundation has raised close to $3 million for capital improvements at the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo. The funds were directed to the construction of the Affinity Learning Centre, McDonald's Natural Place to Play, Kinsmen Bear Exhibit, phase 2 of the PotashCorp Ark Exhibit and the Lions Special Event Pavilion.

In 2012, the Saskatoon Zoo Foundation will kick off a new fundraising initiative with a goal of 2 to 3 million dollars for the design and construction of a new North American Carnivore Exhibit, a new home for our wolves and cougars, which could include a unique glass viewing tunnel and potentially a new wolverine and arctic fox exhibit areas.

The Saskatoon Zoo Foundation has also embarked upon a Planned Giving Program where contributions can support future development through endowments and legacy gifts to education, conservation, capital improvements, and heritage/horticulture projects.

The Saskatoon Zoo Foundation's administration office is located in the Superintendent's Residence (Forestry Farm House). The phone number is 975-2241, the email address is saskatoonzoofoundation@sasktel.net, and the website is www.saskatoonzoofoundation.ca.

Enchanted Forest Holiday Light Tour presented by BHP Billiton

The Saskatoon Zoo Foundation's major fundraising initiative is its partnership with Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation in the annual Enchanted Forest Holiday Light Tour presented by BHP Billiton, which is held at the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo.

The 13th Annual Enchanted Forest Holiday Light Tour was held at the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park from November 18, 2011 to January 08, 2012. The Enchanted Forest hosted 69,500 visitors who enjoyed the bright lights. The Enchanted Forest was also open for two walking nights that attracted 839 people. Net proceeds of approximately $75,000 will be shared by both Foundations. The Saskatoon Zoo Foundation directs its share of the proceeds to capital improvements at the Facility.

The Enchanted Forest tracked the town of origin of all the guests this year. The guests visited from 179 different municipalities states, provinces or countries, 98 municipalities in Saskatchewan, the remainder primarily from Western Canada. This broke down to 65 percent visited from the greater Saskatoon census area and 35 percent were out of town visitors. Of note, we received 9,172 visitors from Regina and 185 visitors from Calgary. We had visitors from seven Provinces and one territory in Canada, thirteen states from the USA, and from twenty other countries.

Zoogala 2011

ZOOGALA 2011 hosted approximately 350 brave patrons who challenged heavy rain and gale force winds. The weather conditions eventually deteriorated to the point that the organizing committee was forced to cancel the event shortly after it began due to public safety concerns.

However, through the generosity of our guests and sponsors, the Saskatoon Zoo Foundation did not lose any money from this cancelled event. As a direct result of the inclement weather and the cancelled event, the Zoo Foundation secured a sponsor to build a permanent special event site, the Lions Event Pavilion. This steel roofed pavilion measures 120 feet (36.58m) long by 80 feet (24.38m) wide and will have canvas walls and an asphalt floor and it is planned to be completed for Zoogala 2012.

A huge thank you goes out to all of the generous sponsors led by West Wind Aviation, the event's title sponsor and all the dedicated volunteers that make this fundraising event so successful.

Zoogala 2012 will take place on Friday, June 15th; guests are encouraged to buy their tickets early by calling the Zoo Foundation office at 975-2250. This event will sell out.

SASKATOON ZOO SOCIETY

Founded in 1976, the Saskatoon Zoo Society (SZS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to stimulating interest in animals, wildlife, and environmental conservation. Through a long-term partnership with the SFFP&Z, the Saskatoon Zoo Society provides quality educational, interpretive, environmental, and zoological programs as well as other visitor services.

The Saskatoon Zoo Society coordinates educational programs at the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo, along with outreach programs around Saskatoon. These programs include Zoo Tours, Investigation Stations, Biofact Boxes, Children's Zoo activities, Summer Camp, Special Events, Zoo Fun Run, Young Naturalists (in conjunction with the Saskatoon Nature Society), Zoo School and the Adopt-a-Critter program. Support for the Saskatoon Zoo Society programs and projects depend on public donations, membership fees, and grants from outside agencies. The success of many of these programs is attributed to a very dedicated group of volunteers guided by dedicated staff.

2011 Highlights

- In 2011, the Saskatoon Zoo Society was paid a contract fee of $44,200 for the delivery of educational programs on behalf of the Zoo, and another $14,000 for the collection of admissions at the Zoo gate.

- In 2011 the Saskatoon Zoo Society had 3 full time programming/education staff and a part-time office support person.

- Various grants helped to cover seasonal staff for the summer Zoo Camp Programs.

- Many education programs were delivered throughout the year utilizing the Affinity Learning Centre.

- A week long program, Zoo School, developed by the Saskatoon Zoo Society staff hosted two inner city schools as part of a pilot project in 2011. This week long program was well received by both students and teachers.

- Special events were the Zoo Fun Run with 150 participating, the Cameco Family Day with 1,300 participating, and Creature Feature Story Time and Drop in Programs with 200 people attending.

- Education continues to be the focus of Saskatoon Zoo Society efforts. During the year, the Saskatoon Zoo Society invested over 7,500 hours of staff and volunteer time in

organizing and delivering 359 educational programs and special events to 10,404 children and adults.

- The Saskatoon Zoo Society continues to be an active member of the SFFP&Z Advisory Committee that is focused on the creation of interpretive signage for the whole site and providing input on the development of Discovery Centre interpretive elements.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

	# of Programs	# of Participants
Outreach Program	62	3,054
Summer Zoo Camps	12	1,058
Animal Antics Preschool Program	56	752
Grade One Tours	57	1,406
General Tours	123	2,864

Forestry Farm Gate and Kinsmen Express

The Saskatoon Zoo Society is paid an administrative fee for managing the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo park gate booth and Kinsmen Express Zoo Train. Park gate costs are paid out of revenues generated by the $2 parking fee, while facility operations cover costs for the Kinsmen Express. The SZS staffed the Zoo Train with four drivers in 2011.

KINSMEN EXPRESS ZOO TRAIN (MONTHLY RIDERS, ANNUAL TOTALS)

	2011	2010	2009	2008
May	2,338	1,580	2,053	2169
June	11,772	11,558	9,900	9,776
July	11,467	10,775	10,250	10,450
August	10,173	9,634	8,579	10,566
September	2,261	1,514	1,287	845
Heritage Tour TOTAL	**We were unable to offer Heritage Tours.**	**We did not offer Heritage Tours**	**We did not offer heritage tours**	**We did not offer Heritage tours overcrowded all year**
Zoo tour TOTAL	**38,011**	**35,061**	**32,069**	**33,806**

Note: We did not offer Heritage Tours in 2011 as the parking lot was always filled to capacity and it would have been dangerous for our guests. We plan to offer this tour in 2012.

Concession and Gift

The SFFP&Z contracts with the Saskatoon Zoo Society to provide concession services for an annual fee of $4,900 plus GST. This essentially pays for utility and maintenance costs. The SZS retains profits to offset their costs of delivering programming and special events. It has been a struggle for the Saskatoon Zoo Society to generate profits because the existing concession is too small to adequately serve a facility of the SFFP&Z size. To compensate for this, two soft drink vending machines are on site and a satellite ice cream cart is utilised on summer weekends, weather permitting. New exhibits and a continued increase in attendance will compound this problem.

FRIENDS OF THE FORESTRY FARM HOUSE

The Friends of the Forestry Farm House is a non-profit corporation established in 1996 to increase awareness of the park's history as the Sutherland Forest Nursery Station, which played a significant role in the settlement of the Prairie Provinces, and by preserving the Superintendent's Residence and encouraging interpretation of the site. The 1913 residence was declared a site of National Significance in 1991.

The Superintendent's Residence is now maintained and operated by the Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo Administration and continues to be offered for rent as a retreat for special events and workshops. The building was rented 35 times in 2011, and groups appreciate the location, history, and self-catering options available.

The Friends of the Forestry Farm House continues to modify and provide heritage-based educational programs on site, usually to a grade 3 level. The program can be modified to be inclusive of more ages. The graduating class of SIAST's Recreation Technology toured through in mid-April. There were 20 students in that class and the program was reflected to their area of expertise – tourism. In addition during 2011, twelve school tours from six different schools for a total of 365 students, teachers, and parents. Flora's bedroom remains a highlight of the tour as it provides an opportunity for today's youth to see what children had in 1913.

On the last Sunday of each summer month the Superintendent's Residence was open to the public, and a walking tour was provided. Again this year, there were four walking tours and open houses which translated to 19 walking tour participants and 51 people toured the house. This number remained steady from last year. The public is very appreciative of being able to tour the house and learn more about the site.

The Friends of the Forestry Farm House hosted three very successful fundraising events during 2011. The Valentine's Supper was well attended and the Fall Supper was sold out as per usual. The Friends of the Forestry Farm House hosted a Spring Art Show and Sale. This inaugural event saw 9 artists displaying their craft throughout the Superintendent's Residence on the last Sunday in May. The event was well attended, the artists were pleased with the turnout and sales and the public viewed it as an opportunity to see local art in a unique setting. The money raised from these events is being used to update the interpretative displays at the house, provide a banner and a new display board with the remainder becoming the seed money for the upcoming centennial celebration.

SASKATCHEWAN PERENNIAL SOCIETY

Presidents Report

The Saskatchewan Perennial Society (SPS) is a non-profit organization with approximately 250 members. The SPS has promoted horticultural programs and projects at the SFFP&Z since its inception in 1988 and continues to play a role in park development. The SPS is responsible for the development and maintenance of the Perennial Border as well as the Robin Smith Meditation and Heritage Rose Gardens.

The Saskatchewan Perennial Society enjoyed another successful year in 2011. Many of our ten Board members were new this year and they had a lot of learning to do. Fortunately we also had the collective memories of some experienced voices to help ensure continuity in the Society's traditions. I want to thank the members of the Board for their enthusiasm and dedication to the Society; many of them also volunteer at multiple Society activities throughout the year.

A major undertaking for the Board was the revision of the Society's bylaws. A committee was struck which reviewed a generic draft of bylaws for small non-profit corporations prepared by one of our members, Kay Robertson, LL.B. This draft, that closely mirrors the relevant requirements set out in the most recent Saskatchewan Non-profit Corporations Act and was easily adapted. The Board approved the new bylaws at its November 1st meeting. The membership will be asked to ratify these bylaws at the 2012 AGM.

The Society has settled into our new home at St. James church on Dufferin Avenue: the library is now stored there and our public presentations are offered every fourth Wednesday of the month from October to March. Although some familiar faces from our Tuesday meetings are missing, the Wednesday meetings are well attended. The members were treated to some wonderful presentations this year, as usual. Bernadette Vangool enlightened us about the life and work of Karl Foerster (1874-1970) who bred winter hardy perennials in Germany despite very difficult political realities during WWII and the Cold War. Chet Neufeld introduced us to many "Native Plants" which can be grown in our prairie gardens. Sara Williams sang and danced about chemical free gardening based on her newly coauthored book (with Hugh Skinner): Gardening Naturally". Brenda Korchinski delighted us with "Flowers and Colour for Your Fall Border". And David Vanstone travelled all the way from Portage la Prairie, Manitoba to engage us in a lively discussion about "New Trends in Hardy Perennials". The colourful pictures that accompanied all of these presentations brought reminders of gardening delight amidst the long winter season. Thank you to the volunteers who ensured that these evenings ran smoothly and that we were well nourished with refreshments while we visited.

The Society recruited volunteers for Gardenscape by email this year and had an overwhelming response. Attendance at the show was down a bit this year but it still provided a good opportunity for us to inform the public about the activities of the Society. Thank you to all the volunteers!

The spring and fall plant exchanges continue to be highlights of the Perennial Society calendar! The second annual plant sale at the spring plant exchange was again a success. The plants, brought in from Vanstone Nurseries in Manitoba, represented several new varieties of hardy perennials at great prices. The fall bulb sale, with bulbs ordered from Van

Noort in British Columbia, was a first this year. Both sales "sold out" and were successful fundraisers for the Society. Thanks to Sara Williams for selecting the plants and bulbs. Thanks, too, to Sara and Bernadette Vangool for fetching the plants from Manitoba, and to Karen Larson for joining me in sorting and pricing the over 2300 bulbs! If anyone would like to offer suggestions for varieties of perennials and bulbs for 2012, please contact Sara or any member of the plant exchange committees.

Garden tours are also favourites with members. The Saskatchewan Perennial Society held two garden tours this year, one in July and one in August, organized by Leslie Sanders. Leslie has efficiently organized garden tours for several years but is now passing on her garden lists. Thanks for a great job, Leslie!

Labour and Learn provides opportunities for our members to work alongside fellow Perennial Society gardeners pulling weeds and pruning the gardens at the Zoo! It's an excellent time to get to know one another and the weeding goes very quickly with many hands. If you haven't yet been out to the Heritage or Rose Gardens at the Forestry Farm Zoo to join in the work or even just to enjoy the beauty of the plantings, we strongly urge you to do so in the coming year!

At the Board's direction, Leslie Sanders and Grace Berg conducted a walk-about review of the Heritage Garden in September. Leslie prepared a report that recommends that the Saskatchewan Perennial Society begin a major revision of the garden which has become overgrown in places. The Society will be looking for volunteers to coordinate this project and to help with the work itself. Please contact any member of the Board if you are interested in helping out. Thanks for your time and expertise, Leslie and Grace.

The Saskatchewan Perennial Society again provided a gardening column to the Saskatoon Sun and other publications in Saskatchewan. Two of those articles focused on the history of the Forestry Farm Park and Zoo (May 22 and May29, 2011). Thanks to Erl Svendsen who is the current editor for this column. Many people look to this column for valuable information on a variety of gardening topics. Several Society members have written pieces for the column and if anyone would like to make a contribution, please contact Erl (erl_svendsen@hotmail.com).

Thank you to **ALL** who have volunteered time and energy to the Saskatchewan Perennial Society in 2011. The Society looks forward to another action packed year in 2012.

Heather Brenneman ,President

2011 Donor Support

SASKATOON ZOO FOUNDATION

The Saskatoon Zoo Foundation and the SFFP&Z benefit from the generous support of the following businesses and corporate community, individuals and families.

Defenders Category $25,000 - $99,999

- Tina and Jerry Grandey

Providers Category $5,000 - $24,999 (Cougar)

- PotashCorp Zoo Society Daycamp Sponsorship
- PotashCorp Billboard Sponsorship
- Keith Talon

Partners Category $1,000 - 4,999 (Wolf)

- Concentra Financial United Way Jeans Day program

Supporters $100 - $999

- Betty Reynolds
- Edward Blouin
- United Way of Ottawa

Exhibit Sponsorship Program

Each sponsor pays $3,000. A sign, recognizing the family/business, is displayed at the exhibit for five years. Funds are used to support projects at the SFFP&Z.

The following companies have sponsored an exhibit in 2011:

- Fastprint Saskatoon
- Star Egg
- Heather Ryan and David Dube Foundation
- Hy-Grade Millwork
- Early's Farm & Garden
- Moore's Financial Services
- JNE Welding
- LaRoche McDonald

SASKATOON ZOO SOCIETY

Donors contributed over $49,200 to the Saskatoon Zoo Society in 2011. The funds were used to support the many programs offered by the Saskatoon Zoo Society. This amount of contributions includes $5,000 from PotashCorp to help fund the Summer Zoo Camp Program.